

Medicaid Developmental Disabilities Services Overview

Medicaid offers a variety of services for children ages birth to 18 that are designed to support a child's changing needs through their development. Children who are Medicaid eligible and have a developmental disability may qualify to receive home and community-based services (HCBS) through the Children's Developmental Disabilities (DD) Services Program.

The Children's DD Services Program offers a wide array of benefits for children based on the individual needs of the child and includes intervention, support, and collaboration services. The system emphasizes evidence-based treatment methods, community integration, and family empowerment.

Families receive an individualized budget to use towards DD services once their child has been found eligible for Children's DD services. Families have the choice to use their child's individual budget to access Medicaid services through two different pathways, the Traditional Model and Family-Directed Services Model.

TRADITIONAL MODEL

Families who choose to access services through the Traditional Model receive services from Medicaid developmental disability providers, including Infant Toddler Program, who are paid for providing defined Medicaid benefits. The Traditional Model includes State Plan HCBS Services and Waiver Services.

State Plan HCBS

All children between birth to 18 years of age with developmental disabilities qualify for the following services:

- Respite
- Habilitative Supports
- Family Education

Children's DD Waiver

Children who are between birth to 18 years of age with developmental disabilities who meet Institutional Level of Care (or ICF/ID) qualify for the following services:

- Respite
- Habilitative Supports
- Family Education
- Habilitative Intervention
- Family Training
- Interdisciplinary Training
- Therapeutic Consultation
- Crisis Intervention

Act Early Waiver

Children who are between 3 to 7 years of age with developmental disabilities, meet ICF/ID level of care, and have autism or severe behaviors qualify for the following services:

- Respite (up to 10% of budget)
- Habilitative Supports
- Family Education
- Habilitative Intervention
- Family Training
- Interdisciplinary Training
- Therapeutic Consultation
- Crisis Intervention

FAMILY-DIRECTED SERVICES MODEL

Families who want a more hands-on and flexible approach in determining the types of services and supports their child needs may choose to access services through the Family-Directed Services Model. The flexibility in this model allows parents to choose, design and direct services outside of the menu of services available in the Traditional Model. It also requires the family to take more responsibility for coordination and management of their child's services if they wish to have more control over the process.

Family-Directed Services may be a good option for a family if they want to:

- Gain more control over the resources available for their child and have more freedom to create and access non-traditional services and supports.
- Manage an individualized budget based on their child's assessed needs.
- Recruit, hire and train their own service providers (families can contract with a traditional service providers, friends, relatives, neighbors, etc.).
- Set wages for service providers based on a service and supports budget.
- Maintain records, monitor services and spending, set schedules, and submit timesheets for providers.
- Contract with non-traditional providers of service or supports.

How Does Infant Toddler Program Fit In with Medicaid DD Services?

The Infant Toddler Program (ITP) has a Medicaid Early Intervention provider agreement to deliver developmental disability services to children birth to three years of age. The purpose of this agreement is to receive reimbursement for applicable Part C early intervention services ITP delivers to children who meet Medicaid's developmental disabilities criteria.

The ITP is identified as the payer of last resort based on Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and was designed to rely on a variety of other funding streams in addition to federal grant dollars to support the program. Therefore, ITP relies greatly on Medicaid funding to ensure a sustainable program.

The DD services provided by ITP for Medicaid reimbursement include:

- Family Education
- Interdisciplinary Training

Family Education and Interdisciplinary Training supports ITP's early intervention evidence-based treatment model. ITP's model focuses on coaching and building the capacity of parents, caregivers, and other professionals in the child's life to implement supports and services that will enhance the child's development.

The definition and provider qualifications for these services are described in the "Medicaid DD Service Definitions and Provider Qualifications" section of the e-Manual.

Case Management:

In addition to being a Medicaid provider, ITP also delivers DD case management on behalf of the Department. As Department case managers, ITP must follow Medicaid requirements to oversee and monitor the child's services.

Under IDEA, ITP is required to deliver service coordination to families for Part C services. Part C service coordination and Medicaid case management have a lot of overlapping activities. However, there are also activities that go beyond Part C service coordination that ITP case managers must complete for Medicaid DD eligible children.

The ITP completes the following case management activities discussed in further detail in the remaining DD sections of this e-Manual:

- Assisting Medicaid's Independent Assessor with DD eligibility determinations
- Managing Medicaid DD annual budgets
- Performing plan monitoring and provider monitoring activities

Medicaid DD Forms and Guidelines

It is important to review and become familiar with the forms and guidelines relating to ITP's Medicaid DD services process. This information is found under the "Forms and Resources" section of the e-Manual, under "Medicaid DD Services."

In addition to the forms and guidelines, the following websites are also important resources for DD services:

- Medicaid Children's DD Website: www.childrenddservices.dhw.idaho.gov
- Medicaid Family-Directed Services Website: www.familydirected.dhw.idaho.gov

Medicaid Developmental Disabilities Services Definitions

Case Manager (CM): A Department of Health and Welfare employee or contractor who assists the family in writing a plan of service and monitoring the services outlined in the plan. For children enrolled in the Infant Toddler Program, the service coordinator acts in the case manager role for Medicaid, and writes an Individualized Family Service Plan.

Developmental Disability (DD): A lifelong disability due to mental or physical impairments, manifested prior to age 22.

Early Intervention Evidenced Based Practices (EB or EBP): The provision of therapy that is proven effective in treating the condition of the individual. To be considered Evidence Based, three components must be present which are 1) Research Based; 2) Expert Driven; 3) Consumer Informed.

Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS): Provide opportunities for Medicaid participants to receive services in their own home or community. These programs serve a variety of targeted groups, such as people with mental illnesses, intellectual disabilities, and/or physical disabilities.

HCBS State Plan: A federal option that allows Medicaid to develop services that meet the needs of people who meet state-defined criteria and typically get a combination of acute medical services (like dental, skilled nursing) and long-term services (like respite, family education).

HCBS Waiver: A federal option that allows Medicaid to develop services that meet the needs of people who prefer to receive long-term care services and supports in their home and community, rather than in an institutional setting.

Individuals with Disability Education Act Part C (IDEA Part C): The section of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act pertaining to early intervention for infants and toddlers, age birth to three.

Intermediate Care Facility for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/ID): Refers to both a specific type of institution, and waiver eligibility. Participants who meet ICF/ID level of care qualify for Medicaid HCBS waivers.